

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY  
(Chapter I of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Rule 44bis)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 59030WO003	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See item 4 below
International application No. PCT/US2004/039926	International filing date ( <i>day/month/year</i> ) 30 November 2004 (30.11.2004)	Priority date ( <i>day/month/year</i> ) 10 December 2003 (10.12.2003)
International Patent Classification (8th edition unless older edition indicated) See relevant information in Form PCT/ISA/237		
Applicant 3M INNOVATIVE PROPERTIES COMPANY		

1. This international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) is issued by the International Bureau on behalf of the International Searching Authority under Rule 44 bis.1(a).
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 6 sheets, including this cover sheet.  
  
In the attached sheets, any reference to the written opinion of the International Searching Authority should be read as a reference to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) instead.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I   | Basis of the report   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II             | Priority  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. III | Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV             | Lack of unity of invention  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V   | Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI             | Certain documents cited   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII | Certain defects in the international application  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII           | Certain observations on the international application   |

4. The International Bureau will communicate this report to designated Offices in accordance with Rules 44bis.3(c) and 93bis.1 but not, except where the applicant makes an express request under Article 23(2), before the expiration of 30 months from the priority date (Rule 44bis .2).

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland  Facsimile No. +41 22 740 14 35	Date of issuance of this report 12 June 2006 (12.06.2006)
	Authorized officer  Yolaine Cussac  Telephone No. +41 22 338 70 80

# PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

REC'D 03 MAY 2006

PCT WPO PCT

To:  
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SAINT PAUL, MN 55133-3427

## WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

Applicant's or agent's file reference  59030WO003		Date of mailing (day/month/year) <b>01 MAY 2006</b>	
International application No. <b>PCT/US04/39926</b>		FOR FURTHER ACTION See paragraph 2 below	
International filing date (day/month/year) <b>30 November 2004 (30.11.2004)</b>	Priority date (day/month/year) <b>10 December 2003 (10.12.2003)</b>		
International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC <b>IPC(7): B65D 88/54; B67D 5/24, 5/22 and US Cl.: 222/30, 36, 38, 321.9</b>			
Applicant <b>3M INNOVATIVE PROPERTIES COMPANY</b>			

**1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:**

- ☒ Box No. I      Basis of the opinion
- ☐ Box No. II      Priority
- ☒ Box No. III      Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- ☐ Box No. IV      Lack of unity of invention
- ☒ Box No. V      Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- ☐ Box No. VI      Certain documents cited
- ☒ Box No. VII      Certain defects in the international application
- ☐ Box No. VIII      Certain observations on the international application

**2. FURTHER ACTION**

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

**3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.**

Name and mailing address of the ISA/ US Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Facsimile No. (571) 273-3201	Date of completion of this opinion <b>10 April 2006 (10.04.2006)</b>	Authorized officer <i>For</i> Michael Y. Mar <i>Virginia Kirby</i> Telephone No. (703) 308-0861
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**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.

PCT/US04/39926

**Box No. I Basis of this opinion**

1. With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of:

- ☒ the international application in the language in which it was filed
- ☐ a translation of the international application into \_\_\_\_\_, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (Rules 12.3(a) and 23.1(b)).

2. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:

a. type of material

- ☐ a sequence listing
- ☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing

b. format of material

- ☐ on paper
- ☐ in electronic form

c. time of filing/furnishing

- ☐ contained in the international application as filed.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in electronic form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.

3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table(s) relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.

4. Additional comments:

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/US04/39926

**Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability**

The questions whether the claimed invention appears to be novel, to involve an inventive step (to be non-obvious), or to be industrially applicable have not been examined in respect of:

☐ the entire international application

☒ claims Nos. 8-18

because:

☐ the said international application, or the said claim Nos. \_\_\_\_\_ relate to the following subject matter which does not require an international search (*specify*):

☒ the description, claims or drawings (*indicate particular elements below*) or said claims Nos. 8-18 are so unclear that no meaningful opinion could be formed (*specify*):

Claims 8-18 are multiple dependent claims and have not been treated on the merits, see MPEP 1824, PCT Rule 6.4(a).

☐ the claims, or said claims Nos. \_\_\_\_\_ are so inadequately supported by the description that no meaningful opinion could be formed (*specify*):

☐ no international search report has been established for said claims Nos. \_\_\_\_\_

☐ a meaningful opinion could not be formed without the sequence listing; the applicant did not, within the prescribed time limit:

☐ furnish a sequence listing on paper complying with the standard provided for in Annex C of the Administrative Instructions, and such listing was not available to the International Searching Authority in a form and manner acceptable to it.

☐ furnish a sequence listing in electronic form complying with the standard provided for in Annex C of the Administrative Instructions, and such listing was not available to the International Searching Authority in a form and manner acceptable to it.

☐ pay the required late furnishing fee for the furnishing of a sequence listing in response to an invitation under Rules 13ter.1(a) or (b).

☐ a meaningful opinion could not be formed without the tables related to the sequence listings; the applicant did not, within the prescribed time limit, furnish such tables in electronic form complying with the technical requirements provided for in Annex C-bis of the Administrative Instructions, and such tables were not available to the International Searching Authority in a form and manner acceptable to it.

☐ the tables related to the nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence listing, if in electronic form only, do not comply with the technical requirements provided for in Annex C-bis of the Administrative Instructions.

☐ See Supplemental Box for further details.

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
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International application No.  
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**Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43 *bis*.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

**1. Statement**

Novelty (N)	Claims <u>NONE</u>	YES
	Claims <u>1-7</u>	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims <u>NONE</u>	YES
	Claims <u>1-7</u>	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims <u>1-7</u>	YES
	Claims <u>NONE</u>	NO

**2. Citations and explanations:**

Claims 1-7 lack novelty under PCT Article 33(2) as being anticipated by US 6,164,494 to Marelli. Marelli shows a liquid dosing dispenser with a device for counting dispensing doses, as seen in Figs. 1 having a fixed ratchet member 1, a trigger member 5 arranged to undergo reciprocal movement, a counter 16 in the form of a ring arranged to undergo a counting movement and having a first region 18 for interaction with the trigger member and a second region 19 with multiple incline sections and teeth as seen in Figs. 5 and 6.

Claims 1-7 meet the criteria set out in PCT Article 33(4), and thus have industrial applicability because the subject matter claimed can be made or used in industry.

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.

PCT/US04/39926

**Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application**

The following defects in the form or contents of the international application have been noted:

Claim objected to under PCT Rule 66.2(a)(iii) as containing the following defect(s) in the form or contents thereof: 444.